

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
Idaho State Office
1387 South Vinnell Way
Boise, Idaho 83709-1657

In Reply Refer To:
8300 (931) P

June 14, 2007

EMS
Information Bulletin No. ID-2007-039

To: District Managers
Attn: Resource Coordinators

From: Acting Deputy State Director for Resources

Subject: Coordination with the State of Idaho and the U.S. Forest Service (FS) for Conducting
River Planning Efforts and Wild and Scenic River (WSR) Studies DD: 6/30/2007

This Information Bulletin (IB) transmits the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU), ID-273, dated February 14, 1991. This MOU is between the State of Idaho, the FS, and the Bureau of Land Management and formalized a cooperative relationship for conducting river planning efforts and WSR studies of Idaho's rivers. Through recent planning efforts, it has come to our attention that you may not be aware of this MOU or have a copy in your files.

Primary elements of this agreement with the State and FS include: 1) coordinating river studies, collecting basic data, developing public involvement activities, determining potential protected river status, eligibility determination, determination of potential designation, suitability analysis, boundary delineation, and management plans and 2) considering cooperating agencies' comments and recommendations and notifying them of resultant changes prior to issuing final plans or reports.

Except for the Coeur d'Alene Resource Management Plan which will be addressed separately, we have made a commitment to the Idaho Department of Water Resources (IDWR) for the planning team lead on each current plan to make an initial contact with Brian Patton, Chief Planner, IDWR, 287-4837, by the end of June to review the status of the WSR study and river management direction for each plan and; as appropriate, develop a strategy for involving them in the planning process. It is also incumbent upon us to coordinate with the FS on our current planning efforts and continue to coordinate with both agencies on new land use and activity planning starts in the future.

If you have any questions concerning this MOU, please contact Brent Ralston, Idaho State Office, at (208) 373-3812.

Signed by:
Jonathon S. Foster

Authenticated by:
Mikell Galloway

Attachments:
1 – Memorandum of Understanding (2pp)

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING
between the
Governor, State of Idaho
and
Regional Foresters
Northern and Intermountain Regions
Forest Service
and
State Director, Idaho
Bureau of Land Management

The purpose of this Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) is to formalize a cooperative relationship for conducting river planning efforts and Wild and Scenic Rivers Studies of Idaho's rivers; among the State of Idaho, the Forest Service, and Bureau of Land Management. It affirms commitments to: prioritize Federal Wild and Scenic Rivers Studies and coordinate Federal studies with State planning activities; share data and planning resources between State and Federal water resource planning agencies; and coordinate public education and information outreach programs.


THE UNDERSIGNED PARTIES MUTUALLY AGREE THAT:

1. The Idaho Department of Water Resources is designated as the lead State agency for water planning activities covered by this agreement. For any particular Federal planning area, the Forest Service and Bureau of Land Management shall agree as to which agency would serve as the lead Federal agency for cooperative studies and so inform the State.
2. The Idaho Department of Water Resources shall coordinate among State and local government agencies.
3. Coordination of the efforts needed to complete studies and/or management plans will be conducted by the lead agencies for each river.
4. A general study plan and schedule will be prepared by the lead agencies.
5. Coordination will include prioritizing State and Federal river studies, collecting basic data, developing public involvement activities, determination of potential protected river status, eligibility determination, determination of potential designation, suitability analysis, boundary delineation, and management plans.
6. Lead agencies will collectively consider the cooperating agencies' comments and recommendations and notify the cooperating agencies of resultant changes prior to issuing final plans or reports.
7. Work provided by each agency is subject to availability of funds. Transfer of funds will occur under appropriate separate agreement.
8. There will be at least one meeting per year to review this MOU and progress on planned studies.

9. Nothing herein shall be considered as obligating any of the parties to expend funds or involving the parties in contracts or other obligations for future payment of money in excess of funds authorized by law and administratively allocated for that work.

10. The rights and benefits conferred by this agreement shall be subject to the laws of the United States and the State of Idaho and to the rules and regulations promulgated thereunder, whether now in force or hereafter enacted or provided; and the mention of specific restrictions, conditions, and stipulations herein shall not be construed as in any way impairing the general powers of supervision, regulation, and control of any of the parties to this agreement.

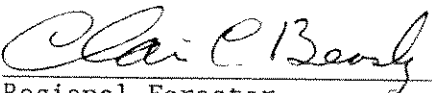
This memorandum will become effective as soon as it is signed by all parties and shall continue in force unless terminated by any party upon providing 90 days written notice to the other parties.


Governor
State of Idaho

2-14-91
Date


for 
Regional Forester
Northern Region
USDA, Forest Service

12/31/90
Date


Regional Forester
Intermountain Region
USDA, Forest Service

12/18/90
Date

AS-KB


Director
State of Idaho
USDI, Bureau of Land Management

1-7-91
Date